

DEMOCRATIC BANNER.

MINOR & MURRAY, Editors.

"SALUS POPULI SUPREMA LEX ESTO."

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THE BANNER.

THE PACKETS.

There is no section of Missouri enjoying more fully the advantages of navigation as the Mississippi country below the rapids. We have three regular packets plying between St. Louis and the rapids, the Boreas, the Laclede, and last, though not least, the Die Vernon. The last named boat is all that a traveler could desire—unsurpassed by any boat in speed, fine accommodations, gentlemanly officers, she looks the very picture of comfort. Those who go to St. Louis will not forget the little Die, and if ever they do travel upon her they will not soon forget the kind attentions of the clerk, Mr. Drax, who is certainly the Chesterfield of the Mississippi.

NOVEL SUIT.

We learn that a case of breach of marriage contract was tried at the late term of the Warren circuit court. This is the first case of the kind we have known to come to trial in this State, and the result, we should suppose, would not prove very satisfactory to the ladies. The suit was brought by Miss Fant, vs. Dr. Wells, and the verdict of the jury was one cent damages for the plaintiff. The trial occupied two days, and was conducted on the part of the plaintiff by W. L. Williams and U. Wright, Esq's, of St. Louis, and A. H. Buckner, of this place, and Wm. M. Campbell, of St. Louis, for the defense.

RIVERS.

Four feet water reported in the Missouri and falling slowly. The Illinois is very low, and the Mississippi is fine boating stage, and falling.

CONFESION.

It is said that Buffalo Bill, who lately died in New Orleans, confessed upon his death-bed that he had stabbed Maj. Floyd, and that McLean was an accessory to the murder. Our readers will recollect that Buffalo Bill was tried and cleared of this charge a short time after its commission, and that McLean was acquitted last week.

GAZETTE.

Edmund Flagg, has retired from the editorial chair of the St. Louis Gazette. Bad health, is the cause assigned. We are sorry for this—we admired the ability and spirit with which Mr. Flagg conducted the Gazette. We can only hope that the Gazette may be enabled to fill the place of the retiring editor.

The indications from the public prints of Texas, leave no doubt of the favorable reception by the people of that Government, of the overtures made by the U. States. The Galveston News, in remarking upon the struggle about to take place in Texas, says:—

"Now comes the eleventh-hour offer of our recognition—now comes the friendship—now again our government is to be pitted with English gold, and power, and influence, and with all the riches of her commerce."

"All information from the country," adds the News, "proclaims the utmost harmony and unanimity among our citizens in favor of the Joint Resolutions."

The estimated balance in the U. States Treasury on the 1st of July will be \$204,929.

The Grand Lodge of Mississippi have voted, that any Odd fellow who may be concerned in a duel, shall at once be expelled from the fraternity.

One of the New York papers has been caught in criticizing Mr. Poe's lecture on a certain evening, when it was not delivered!

The following is from the Danville reporter. It hits off a certain class of folks admirably:

"The meanest creature that walks the streets is the being that misrepresents and slanders a newspaper, and daily borrows the same for his own use and pleasure."

ANTS.

A small quantity of green sage placed in the closet, will cause red ants to disappear.

SALE OF THE NATIONAL THEATRE.

The National Theatre, in Washington, and the ground, were sold recently at auction, for \$11,000, and were purchased by Mr. Rodman. The lot contains more than fourteen thousand square feet, and the walls more than a million of bricks.

ABOLISHED.

The Postmaster General has ordered the offices of the ten travelling agents of the department and five deputies, to be abolished, and by this movement alone some \$25,000 will be saved.

The costs in the case of the State vs. McLane, which terminated at the last term of the Circuit Court, amounted to eleven hundred and fifty-four dollars and twenty-nine cents.

BANK OF NORTH AMERICA.

This institution has had its capital, restored to one million of dollars, and the shares to \$400, by an act of the last Pennsylvania Legislature.

Tom Tuxen has been invited to a hundred private parties at Paris, at 100 dollars a piece.

MORMON DISTURBANCES.

The Mormon settlement in Iowa county, west of this, is in arms, and divided into two parties, threatening each other with destruction. The sheriff has advised a posse to go up and rectify the matter if possible. The difficulty is said to have arisen in the personal appropriation of the money and effects of the company, made by the leader, who has chosen and armed a guard for his defence.—Iowa City Standard.

Letters are now carried from Boston to New York, by Brainerd's Express, at three cents each!

SUICIDE.

Mrs. Elizabeth Vanderbilt committed suicide in New York, on 14th inst., occasioned by the loss of a child.

The Hon. George M. Dallas, the Vice President, presided at a meeting in Philadelphia, on the 15th inst, held for the relief of the Pittsburgh sufferers.

The ladies have resolved to marry no man who does not take a newspaper, and furthermore, they won't allow a fellow to look at them, who owes the printer for more than one year's subscription.—Ex. paper.

We wish it was the case herabouts.

The Warsaw Signal says that the name of the Holy City is soon to be changed from Nauvoo to the City of Joseph.

FOR JEFFERSON PENITENTIARY.

Five convicts left yesterday, for Jefferson city; among the number was THORNTON H. FREEMAN, the mail robber, who was sentenced at the present session of the U. S. Circuit Court for 15 years.

A young lady, residing in Venice, near the Upper Ferry Landing, on the Illinois side, attempted to drown herself last Monday, but was taken from the river in an exhausted state. It is doubtful whether she will recover. Cause—disappointed love.

At a meeting in Philadelphia Wednesday week, a resolution was adopted requesting the Council of that city to borrow \$500,000, to be lent to the city of Pittsburgh, for the benefit of the sufferers.

It has been ascertained that of the 254 passengers on board the Swallow, 194 were saved, and 46 known to have been on board are unaccounted for by name.

HORRIBLE.

A Cincinnati paper says:—A child was partly devoured by hogs a day or two since while playing in an open lot where there were logs and sticks. It is supposed that the child got fast, and was overtaken by the hogs while in that situation.

FROM SANTA FE AND CHIHUAHUA.

Messrs. Levens, Ser. Branham, & twelve or fourteen companions from New Mexico, arrived at Independence on the 17th. The Exposition is yet.

In the way of news we have little to communicate. The intelligence of the final defeat and captivity of Santa Anna had not been received.

Business had been dull all winter. The new set of laws in full force. This will be remembered, prohibited the retailing of goods by any except the manufacturer.

Mr. S. says it is difficult with the distance between Santa Fe and Chihuahua. On the 1st of April, and may be looked for here in three or four weeks.

Robert McCarty, of this place, died in Santa Fe in February last.

The news of the slaughter of the traders' wives, whom the Yute Indians have killed, is supposed to be a hoax. The Indians must have perished. Nothing has been heard from him since the winter.

The visit from the Gold Mines in New Mexico this season, has been small. The weather is very dry, and the crops are small.

We find the following melancholy story in the New York correspondent of the Publicist:—It is indeed a dark shade in the character of city life:

"A WOMAN WHO DIED WHO CAN BEAR." Some years since, two interesting and accomplished young French ladies arrived in this country, one of them a governess in the family of an affluent merchant, returning from Paris. She remained with them a year, and her sister was employed as a French teacher in a fashionable boarding school in town.

Time passed and they reached old age, and by change of position or loss of friends, they were compelled to resort to needle work, having hired a couple of rooms in a house beyond the densely populated portion of the city. They became very poor, and with the peculiar tact of French ladies, they began to consider the matter in a different light.

Some time since, they received an anonymous note, probably written by some one who suspected their painful situation, stating that these ladies were in a state of extreme destitution, and one of them was dead!

He immediately went to their obscure home in the upper part of the city, and the fearful truth flashed over his mind, that these refined, shrinking, delicate women had suffered from absolute want, without even an intimation of it to the family who occupied the other portion of the house.

The surviving one was in feeble health, very much emaciated and heart-broken at the loss of her sister. Every aid was rendered, attempts were made to soothe the bleeding wounds of the survivor. But she was almost inconsolable, and although herself much emaciated and very feeble, she refused to be comforted.

Arrangements were at once made for the funeral, and on the afternoon of the succeeding day, a number of families went out in their own carriages, determined to take the surviving sister to one of their sumptuous mansions. Their amazement may well be conceived, when, upon arriving at the now lonely home of these accomplished and once beautiful girls, to find that the remaining sister was also dead! What had produced this excessive grief had added the work of death, and when one sister died, the full heart of the other was broken with anguish, and both were laid in the same grave. This is no fiction. It is a sad fact, and is only another dark shade in the character of a city life.

INTERESTING ITEMS.

A western editor, under this head, informs our readers that his wife has presented him with twins—that the office devil has got the measles—and that his press is to be sold by the sheriff.

[From the Reporter.] TENNESSEE.

The contest in this State promises to be very exciting. The two candidates for Governor have published a list of appointments to address the people in sixty-one counties prior to the election, with the determination to visit as many other counties as possible. The district and county conventions are bringing forward candidates for the various offices to be filled at the coming election, and in a few weeks both parties in Tennessee will be in the midst of an important struggle. The contest in that State will excite no inconsiderable interest throughout the Union, for many reasons. At the Presidential election the Whigs succeeded by a majority of less than two hundred, and the votes actually cast for 641 took place to have exceeded the number given to Mr. Clay. As Tennessee is the seat of the Hickory branch of the Democratic party, the Democracy everywhere where it should be again placed on the old Republican platform. Besides, a U. S. Senator will have to be chosen by the next Legislature, and it may be, instructions given to Senator J. J. Van Johnson on the Texas and other questions. The Tennesseeans are aware that annexation must be consummated at the next session of Congress, or fall forever. They have noticed the indications throughout the North, that the Whigs will make a desperate effort next winter to defeat the measures, when it comes up for final action. In that event it may happen that one of the Democratic members will again give way and leave the great measure in doubt. It is therefore of vast importance that the men should be sent from every slaveholding State, as well as from non-slaveholding States, who will fearlessly whatever storm may arise on that, or any other question, Virginia is about to elect her Congressmen, and Legislature. The present administration must be sustained in its efforts for the good of the country, and in Virginia as well as Tennessee, the Democrats are determined to hold their opponents to the real issues between the two parties, giving them no room for dodging. In both of these States the Whigs now deny that they are opposed to annexation. In Virginia, however, the demand is no means general. In a few Congressional Districts the Whig candidates take ground against annexation under any circumstances, and in others they declare in favor of the measure, but with so many provisos that their friends are worse than open enemies. In Tennessee, the Whigs have pursued even a more singular course, on the Texas question. During the Presidential canvass, they denounced annexation in the strongest terms, and proclaimed that its originators and advocates were disunionists, who had conceived the scheme and were urging it for the most treasonable purposes. The Whig papers in that State trembled with arguments and denunciations against it, but it was evident that many who voted for Clay, were really in favor of annexation, and of a more liberal policy than the Whig party advocated. Hence, Mr. Foster, of the Senate, and Milton Brown, of the House, with his Whig colleagues, went for annexation, and the former was vehement in his assaults upon the Abolitionists and their quasi supporters, as well as upon the high protectionists. The Whigs selected Senator Foster for their gubernatorial candidates, evidently with the determination of changing front entirely, and claiming to be annexationists and friends of moderate tariff. To carry out their new plan of operations, they placed their leading presses under the charge of new editors—men who had not in the last canvass battled for the old and well defined positions of the party. This grand political manoeuvre on the part of the Tennessee Whigs, was, in reality, an abandonment of the contest before a blow was struck. They thus confessed that the doctrines for which they contended last year were untenable, and that they dare not go before the people again on such issues. Hence, their new position is one which cannot fail to show Tennesseeans, that the Whig leaders are contending, not for principles, but for power and place. They have changed their notions, without explanation or apology, merely to catch the popular breeze for the time; and yet

ask that they may be entrusted with the direction of public affairs—or perhaps we should say, they affect to have abandoned their former positions for the purpose of gaining the ascendancy in that State. If they were sincere, they would show it by abandoning all opposition to the Democratic nominees. Yet they profess to be annexationists and opponents of a high tariff, and dodge the subject of a National Bank, whilst laboring to defeat those who have always been consistent on these points. For what, then, are they contending, if not for the spoils alone? We confess we have been unable to perceive, if their declarations are to be credited. The truth is, however, that the new garment they have put on, is designed merely to cloak their real views and intentions. The Democrats, therefore, will not fail to expose the shifting, twisting and dodging of their opponents, & the causes which have operated in producing such a singular change of position, nor the people to confer their suffrages upon men who have shown their faith by their works. The dismay evinced by the Whigs in changing front so suddenly on the Texas question, promises well for our friends; and they should not suffer their opponents to wear the mask they have assumed, without exposure. The Democratic candidates have victory in their power, and we are confident will achieve it.

SKETCH OF A GENTLEMAN.

Moderation, decorum, & neatness distinguish the gentleman. He is at all times affable, diffident and studious to please; intelligent and polite; his behavior is pleasant and graceful.—When he enters the dwelling of an inferior he endeavors to hide, if possible, the difference between their rank in life. Ever willing to assist those around him, he is neither unkind, haughty, nor overbearing. In the mansions of the great correctness of his mind induces him to bend to etiquette, but not stoop to adulation. Correct principles caution him to avoid the gaming table, inebriety, or any other folly that could occasion him self-reproach. Pleased with the pleasures of reflection, he rejoices to see the gaiety of society, and is fastidious upon no point of little import. Appear only to be a gentleman, and his shadow will bring upon you contempt; be a gentleman, and his honors will remain after you are dead. —[Voice of Truth.]

A BEAUTIFUL IDEA.

At a late public meeting in New York, says the Telegraph, the Rev. J. Spaulding dwelt a few moments on the deathless nature and extent of moral influence. "Away among the Alleghanies," said he, "there is a spring so small that a single ox in a summer's day could drain it dry.—It steals its unobtrusive way among the hills, till it spreads out in the beautiful Ohio. Thence it stretches its way a thousand miles, leaving on its banks more than a hundred villages and cities and many thousand cultivated farms; and bearing on its bosom more than half a thousand steamboats. Then joining the Mississippi, it stretches away and away some twelve hundred miles more, till it falls into the great emblem of eternity. It is one of the tributaries of that ocean, which, obedient only to God, shall roll and roar, till the angel with one foot on the sea and the other on the land, shall lift up his hand to heaven and swear that time shall be no longer. So with Moral Influence. It is a rill—a rivulet—a river—an ocean, boundless & fathomless as eternity."

HOW MUCH IT COST TO PAINT A FACE.

Some twenty years ago, there lived in Berkshire county, Massachusetts, two physicians of considerable skill and eminence. One of them used or spirituous liquors—the other drank freely; and while one had acquired considerable property, the other remained poor. Meeting each other one day, when the former was returning from a distant town with a richly painted and well made carriage the latter accosted him:

"Doctor—how do you manage to ride in a carriage painted in so costly a manner? I have been in practice as long and as extensively as you, and charge as much; but I can hardly live & drive the old one." "The paint on my carriage," he replied, "didn't cost half as much as the paint on your face."

A WHISTLING YANKEE.

Some years since, a Yankee from the land of "no-no's" travelling westward, found himself minus of cash, after his arrival at the flourishing village of Painesville Ohio. But Yankees are proverbial for tact, and they turn their wits many ways, to supply the needful. So our Yankee traveler, being keen at whistling, pre-arranged the village, with his hands stuck in his empty pockets, whistling a variety of national airs, much to the amusement of all. Seeing that his employ "looked" with the multitude he set himself up as a teacher of the Science of Whistling, and reasoned very gravely, that as whistling would whistle, it would be well for them to learn the science,—rightly judging that what ought to be done at all, should be done well, i.e. upon scientific principles. He believed that there were far more could learn that science than was generally supposed—that there was no reason why the female sex, with acknowledged better voices than males, should be denied the privilege of whistling, and descended largely upon the advantage to be derived from a thorough knowledge of the science. In short, a school was started at once, and many a young limb of the law, medical students and clerks, with their ladies, were subscribers. The price was fixed at fifty cents per couple, and always paid in advance, by which our Yankee friend well supplied his pockets.

The evening for his first lesson had arrived—and with it a goodly number of gents and ladies, at the hotel waiting the promised instruction.—The preliminary observation was made that no one would be assured of any improvement, without they carried out the precise instructions, and obeyed the demands of their teacher.

All were standing upon the floor on the tip-toe of expectation, when our Yankee gave forth his first command with great gravity "prepare to pucker!" All anticipated the next command, "pucker!" and instantly a roar of laughter shook the house to its foundation.

It is unnecessary to say that the next day our Yankee traveller was seen wending his way westward, with full pockets, and whistling a merry tune, while those who had taken their first lesson in the science of whistling were hailed at every turn in the street with the by-words—"prepare to pucker!"—pucker!"

The following is a fair sample of the puff oblique, while it has its full allowance of humor. We find it in the N. Y. Atlas. Two newsboys are supposed to be contemplating the smoking ruins of the Tribune office, a day or two after the fire.

"I say, Tom, it was easy enough for that old scowey Noth to keep afloat on that 'ere raft of his'n when the waters rise; but what could a feller do in a general conflagration?"

"Why, Bill, I guess I'd jump into the North river. They wouldn't go to set that on fire."

"A-fire! no, but if the earth was red hot, in course the river 'ud oil be set a-biling. Now tell us, 'Tom, where you'd stow your body and bones?"

"Well, Bill, I'm blamed if I know." "Then ye're a spooner, Tom. I'll tell ye what I'd do: I'd jest run down to 139 Water street, and jump into one of them sallymander safes, shut the door, and tell the rest of the world to go to blazes!"

"Bill, ye're right; there's no burn about them—I'm darned if there is."

YELLOW FEVER.

The ship Vandalia arrived at Hampton Roads, Norfolk, last Wednesday week, with one hundred and fifty down with the yellow fever, from Port Praya. Lieut. George Mason Hoar, J. M. Lockhart, Purser Moore, Assistant Surgeon Channing, the carpenter, sailmaker, and sixteen of the crew died on the passage.—[Gazette.]

A BOAT CLOAK.

A gentleman in the British Navy has invented a cloak, which is capable of being filled with air and used as a boat. An experiment was lately made with one of these at Plymouth, England, in which the party paddled off some miles from the ship, holding an umbrella over his head, and on landing, he put his boat on his back and walked off.